

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of GREEN ET AL.

)
) Art Unit: 2877
)
) Examiner: N/A
)
) Atty Docket: GRE001

Serial Number 09/823,992

Filed April 3, 2001

For: MASS SPECTROMETER AND METHODS OF MASS
SPECTROMETRY

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified new U.S. patent application,
kindly amend the application in accordance with the following particulars:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 1-34 in their entirety, without prejudice or disclaimer,
and insert new claims 35-77 as follows:

35. (New) A mass spectrometer comprising:

an ion source;

a lens downstream of said ion source wherein in a first high sensitivity mode
of operation said lens focuses a beam of ions and in a second low sensitivity mode of
operation said lens substantially defocuses a beam of ions;

a mass analyser downstream of said lens, said mass analyser comprising an ion
detector; and

control means arranged to switch said lens from said first high sensitivity
mode to said second low sensitivity mode upon determining that particular mass peaks
in a mass spectrum are saturating or approaching saturation and mass peaks within a
particular mass range in a mass spectrum are saturating or approaching saturation.

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